

# Guidelines for the PSNAP Surveillance Residential Program

## Introduction to the Surveillance Residential Program

The PSNAP Surveillance Residential Program (referred to as Surveillance Residential) has been established to enhance the national capability and capacity to detect plant pests by developing the skills of individuals. Those working in plant health surveillance will gain essential skills and knowledge through experiences they would not otherwise have access to in their own organisation. The program will let participants share their ideas and experience, lead to greater collaboration and build on existing networks.

The program forms an integral component of the professional development framework for the Plant Surveillance Network Australasia-Pacific (PSNAP), mirrored off the successful Diagnostic Residential Program run by the National Plant Biosecurity Diagnostic Network (NPBDN).

## Overview

Surveillance Residential allow individuals working in plant health surveillance to spend time in another workplace or location, or by participating in relevant activities that improve the national capability to detect plant pests.

Potential examples may include:

- Attending a relevant workshop or training event to fill a known gap in national plant health surveillance
- Learning new techniques and gaining exposure to different surveillance activities by participating in a program, where the techniques or practices are currently implemented
- Improving field triage skills by working with an expert for the target pest(s)
- Improving sampling and transport methodology to improve diagnostic outcomes by spending time with an expert for the target pest(s) and/or spending time in a diagnostic laboratory
- Participating in a surveillance program to allow policy/office-based members to gain field experience and greater understanding of the logistics of surveillance
- Arranging for an expert to visit your workplace to train staff on a specific skill or information not currently held within the group

These are just a few examples. Applicants are encouraged to think outside the box when designing their Surveillance Residential Project.

Projects should show benefit to the PSNAP and address a known plant health surveillance gap or improve the capability to detect one of the following.

1. A National Priority Plant Pest (NPPP). List available at [agriculture.gov.au/pests-diseases-weeds/plant/national-priority-plant-pests-2019](https://agriculture.gov.au/pests-diseases-weeds/plant/national-priority-plant-pests-2019)
2. A pest on the ‘Plant diseases and their Pathogens<sup>1</sup>’ section of the Priority list of exotic environmental pests and diseases. Information available at [agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity/environmental/priority-list](https://agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity/environmental/priority-list)
3. A High Priority Pest of plant industries. These are listed in Biosecurity Plans for industries.
4. An emerging plant pest.

The length of a Surveillance Residential will depend on the project activities and the specified outcomes. It is anticipated that residential will be approximately 5-14 days long. After the project is carried out, recipients must meet reporting requirements, present their project at an Annual Surveillance Workshop and train a minimum of two people from their home organisation on the skills learned.

<sup>1</sup> The *Plant diseases and their Pathogens* list is directly available at [haveyoursay.agriculture.gov.au/48658/documents/114288](https://haveyoursay.agriculture.gov.au/48658/documents/114288)



## Eligibility

PSNAP members<sup>2</sup> currently employed in an organisation relevant to the plant health surveillance in Australia or New Zealand are eligible for the program.

## Applications

Surveillance Residential Project applications should clearly address each field in the application form, including endorsement from the applicant's line manager and the manager of the host organisation. The application form is available to download from the members section of the PSNAP website ([plantsurveillancenetwork.net.au/events/](http://plantsurveillancenetwork.net.au/events/)). Completed forms should be submitted to the PSNAP Coordinator ([PSNAP@phau.com.au](mailto:PSNAP@phau.com.au)) by **COB Friday 26 March 2021**.

## Assessment of applications

All applications will be assessed by the Plant Surveillance Network Working Group, under the Subcommittee on National Plant Health Surveillance (SNPHS), based on the following criteria.

The project demonstrates:

1. Benefits to national plant health surveillance and the PSNAP, through building surveillance capability and/or capacity
2. Benefits to the applicants' organisation and host organisation
3. Clear and valuable outcomes and outputs
4. Means to disseminate outcomes and outputs to the applicant's organisation and the PSNAP
5. Value for money.

Successful applicants will be provided further information and reporting templates when notified of the application outcome.

## Guide to budgets

Surveillance Residential are anticipated to be in the range of \$3,000 to \$10,000. Applicants may propose budgets outside this range if value for money can be demonstrated. The program encourages a collaborative approach between participating agencies. Surveillance Residential can cover the costs of travel, accommodation, bench fees (if applicable) and some consumables. In kind support from participating organisations is expected, and can include wages, registration fees (for associated conferences and workshops) and some consumables.

## Timelines

Applications open on Thursday 25 February 2021 and **close at COB Friday 26 March 2021**. Application outcomes will be provided in May 2021. Consider any travel restrictions relating to COVID-19 when designing your project. It is preferred that the Surveillance Residential are undertaken before the end of June 2022. However, successful applicants can negotiate their travel timelines when more is known about restrictions into the future.

## Acknowledgement of funding

Funding for this program is provided by the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment under the Plant Biosecurity and Response Reform programme.

## Contact

Contact the PSNAP Coordinator at [PSNAP@phau.com.au](mailto:PSNAP@phau.com.au) or (02) 6215 7700 for further information or assistance with the application. Alternatively, you may wish to talk to your local SNPHS member, the list of members can be found at the bottom of this page [plantsurveillancenetwork.net.au/about/](http://plantsurveillancenetwork.net.au/about/).

<sup>2</sup> To join the PSNAP visit [plantsurveillancenetwork.net.au/join/](http://plantsurveillancenetwork.net.au/join/)